

# FLOODS AND HIGH WATER-1936



Pennsylvania's Greatest Flood Disaster in Pictures

25¢

# FLOODS and HIGH WATER » 1936

---

## Pennsylvania's Greatest Flood Disaster in Pictures

COPYRIGHT 1936

BY

THE TELEGRAPH PRESS, HARRISBURG, PA.

FIRST EDITION: APRIL

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- The photographs reproduced in this book were obtained from the following sources:

ACME NEWS PICTURES, INC.

MAJOR J. V. DALLIN, 28TH DIV. AVIATION

INTERNATIONAL NEWS PHOTOS, INC.

THE KEMP STUDIO

THE PITTSBURGH PRESS

THE TELEGRAPH NEWSPAPERS

WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

### EDITOR'S NOTE

- Together with the cover photograph—a street in flood-stricken Johnstown—we present sixty-four outstanding scenes of Pennsylvania's greatest flood. The last page of the book shows a map of the great Commonwealth with flood areas indicated. The inside back cover is blank and we suggest that you use it to set down your own flood experiences—or those of your family or friends. To the brave people of this State and to all the agencies who so generously aided in flood relief this book is dedicated.

As reproduced in THE TELEGRAPH NEWSPAPERS, Harrisburg





The boat brigade tours  
south Harrisburg

KEMP STUDIO





Sunbury residents park  
their cars and take to boats


MAJ. J.V. DALLIN 28<sup>TH</sup> DIV. AVIATION





Store fronts in Johnstown shattered by flood water





Ghost city of the flood: Nothing—  
animate or inanimate—moves in  
inundated Johnstown

FROM WIDE WORLD PHOTOS





One of the Capital's busiest corners—normally, 11th and Market Streets, Harrisburg.

KEMP STUDIO



# FOOD STORES

Signs offering "Brooms—Tangerines—Salt" hang dejectedly in Pittsburgh food store





Water covers markers on the  
grave of John Harris, founder of  
the Capital City

KEMP STUDIO





Middletown becomes Ven-  
ice-on-the-Susquehanna

MAJ. J.V. DALLIN, 28<sup>TH</sup> DIV. AVIATION






Seven important flood-  
spots at Harrisburg

MAJ. J.V. DALLIN, 28<sup>TH</sup> DIV. AVIATION



An aerial photograph showing a long, straight bridge spanning a wide river. The river is formed by the confluence of two smaller rivers, visible as a V-shape. The bridge has two main spans. On the left bank, there is a small cluster of buildings and trees. The surrounding landscape is flat and appears to be a mix of water and land.

The Juniata and the Sus-  
quehanna merge at Clark's  
Ferry Bridge

MAJ. J.V. DALLIN. 28<sup>TH</sup> DIV. AVIATION





Tree-tops and house-roofs  
remind that land lies be-  
neath water at Clark's  
Ferry





The National Guard is on the job.  
All is well! A scene at Westmont,  
suburb of Johnstown





Wreckage strews the streets of  
Johnstown

FROM WIDE WORLD PHOTOS





Fire adds to the terror of high water in Pittsburgh





Three white blurs on the  
water mark remains of  
bridge near Mifflintown

MAJ. J.V. DALLIN 28<sup>TH</sup> DIV. AVIATION





Water races in the streets  
of Lewisburg





Record high water  
floods Harrisburg rail-  
road station first time  
in history.





The Port Royal Bridge is swept away

MAJ. J.V. DALLIN, 28<sup>TH</sup> DIV. AVIATION





At its height, water was over rooftops in McKees Rocks. Here are first boats to embark on rescue work

ACME





Railing snapped off,  
house moved forty feet,  
hole gouged out by  
rushing torrents at Is-  
land Park, Harrisburg.





Retaining wall along  
Susquehanna Trail  
washed away at Dau-  
phin Narrows.





Water engulfs the town of  
Selinsgrove

MAJ. J. V. DALLIN, 28TH DIV. AVIATION





Another view of Sunbury,  
hard-hit by the raging  
Susquehanna





Diver preparing to descend beneath flood waters covering a Pittsburgh power plant

ACME





The familiar "bottle-neck"  
across the bridges from  
Harrisburg

MAY J. V. DALLIN 28TH DIV AVIATION





Cameron Street, Harrisburg, looking south. Observe top of bus above high water






Close-up of partially-submerged bus on Cameron Street, Harrisburg

KEMP STUDIO





Bedstead, provisions and radio. These are the things to save when floods force evacuation.

PHOTO FROM WIDEWORLD





Beautiful sunken gardens  
at Harrisburg sink beneath  
the flood, Zombo Mosque  
right foreground

MAJ. J.V. DALLIN, 28<sup>TH</sup> DIV. AVIATION





The flood at Duncannon:  
note house indicated by  
arrow





Shattered remnants of  
building adjacent to house  
indicated by arrow





**A thrilling rescue of  
mother and child at  
Johnstown.**





Underpass on Market Street,  
Harrisburg, flooded to the  
railroad bridge.

TELEGRAPH NEWSPAPER - SMITH





The once-placid Juniata  
leaves its banks; invades  
the highways





River road, Harrisburg, submerged  
to point marked by arrow

LIN 187





The flood sweeps over  
bridge approaches above  
Watson town





Flood-created explosion wrecks industrial plant and six homes in Pittsburgh

APME





Called: account of flood! Harris-  
burg's ball park under water






River water floods Harris-  
burg's island filter plant

KEMP STUDIO





Fashionable north Harris-  
burg entertains the Sus-  
quehanna





JOHNSTOWN  
BANK  
AND  
TRUST  
COMPANY

No looting! National Guardsmen  
protect a bank at Johnstown





They smile! Their home was swept away but lives were spared

FROM WIDE WORLD PHOTOS





By-product of the flood—disease—  
is fought by swift inoculation

PHOTO FROM  
WIDE WORLD

PHOTO FROM WIDE WORLD.





HIGH WATER  
JUNE 2ND —————→  
1889

MAY 22ND —————→  
1891

Three feet, four inches above the '89 mark at Rockville Bridge near Dauphin.





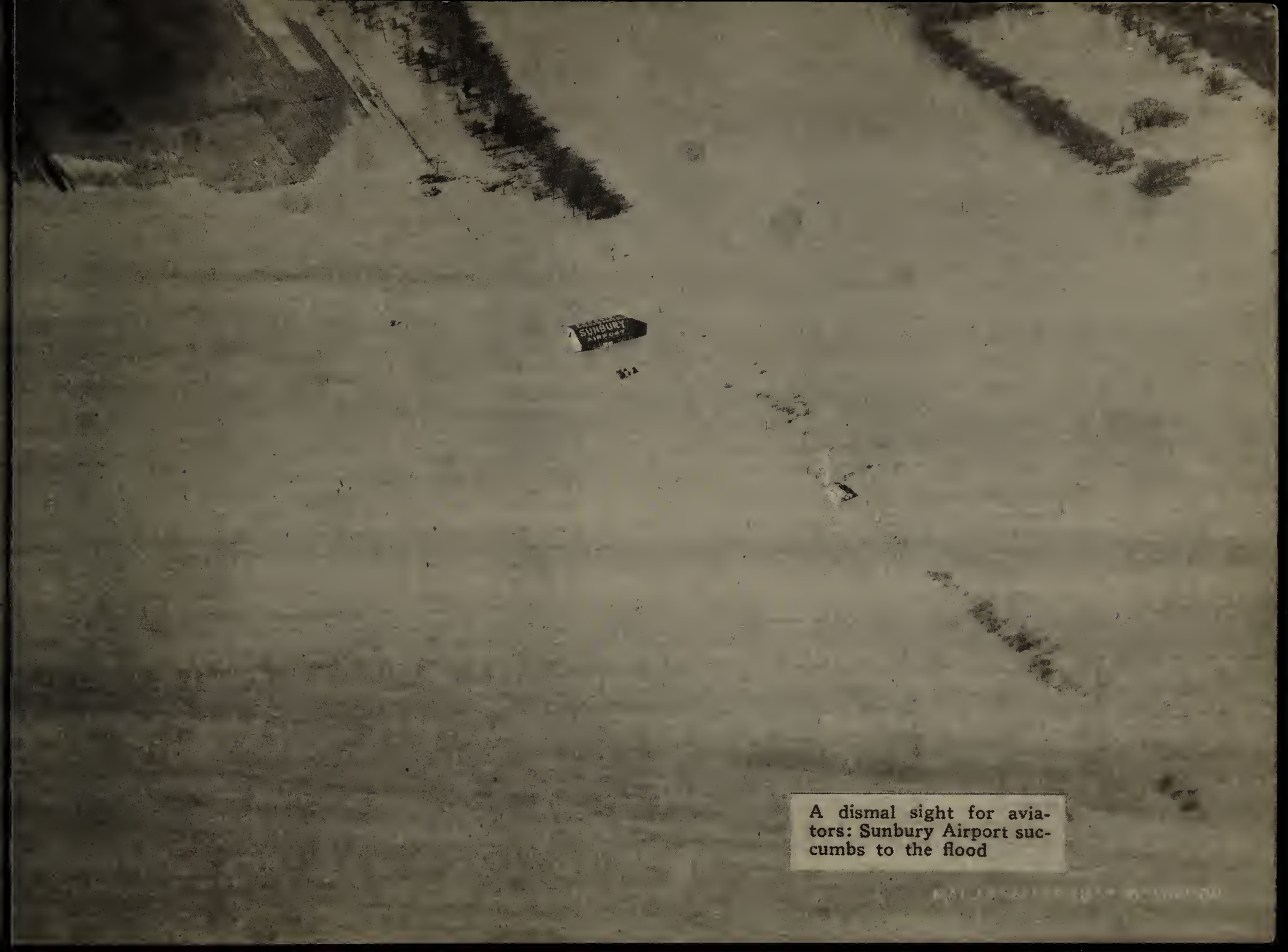
Pittsburgh's clean-up squad begins work. Man at left points out high water mark on window.





Harrisburg's State Farm  
Show Building surrounded  
by water





A dismal sight for aviators: Sunbury Airport succumbs to the flood

PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD





Johnstown scene of the 1889 flood,  
again feels the brunt of unleashed  
waters

PHOTO FROM WIDE WORLD

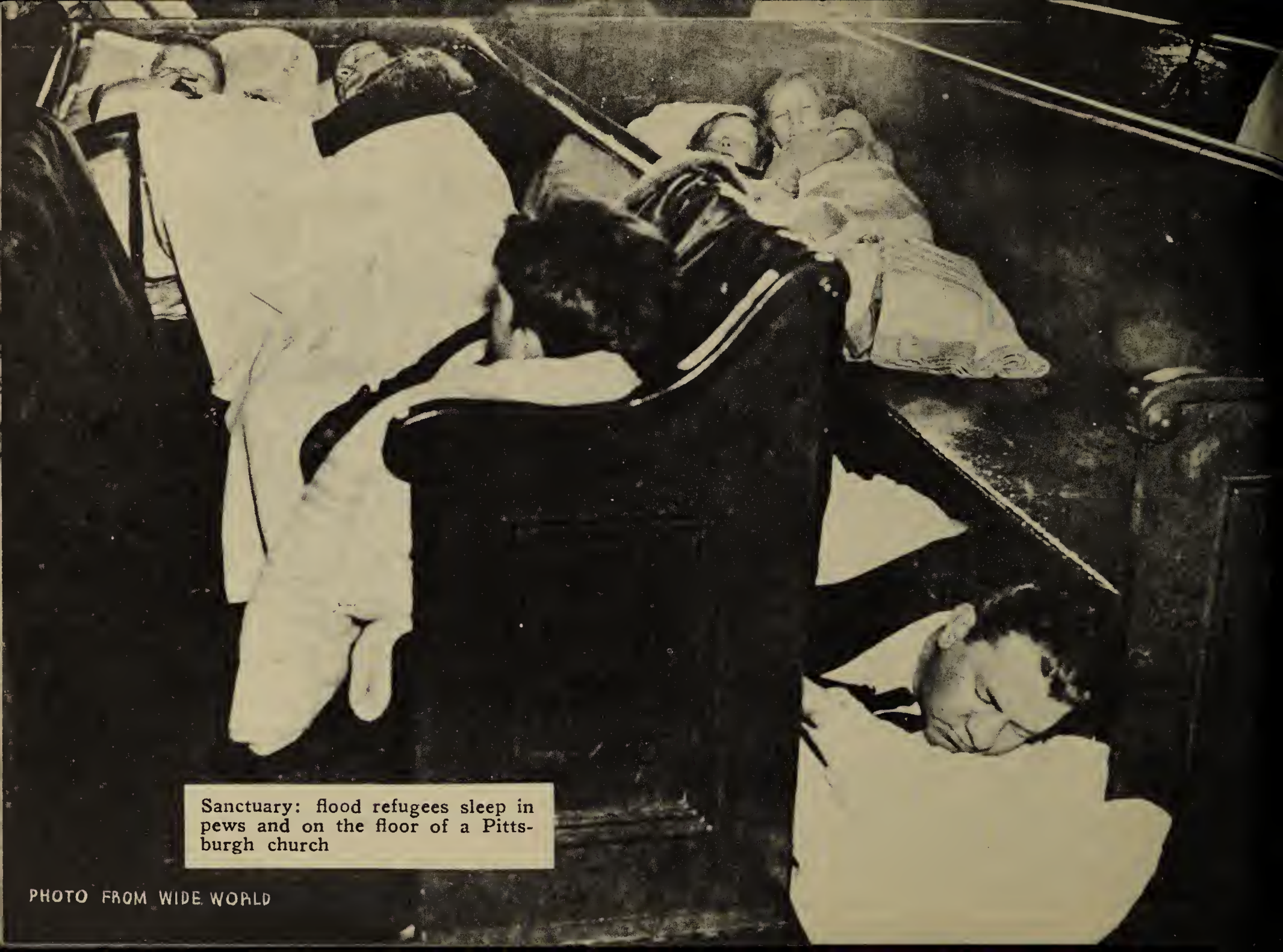




Tiny refugees sleep the sleep of exhaustion as they huddle together in a Pittsburgh school.

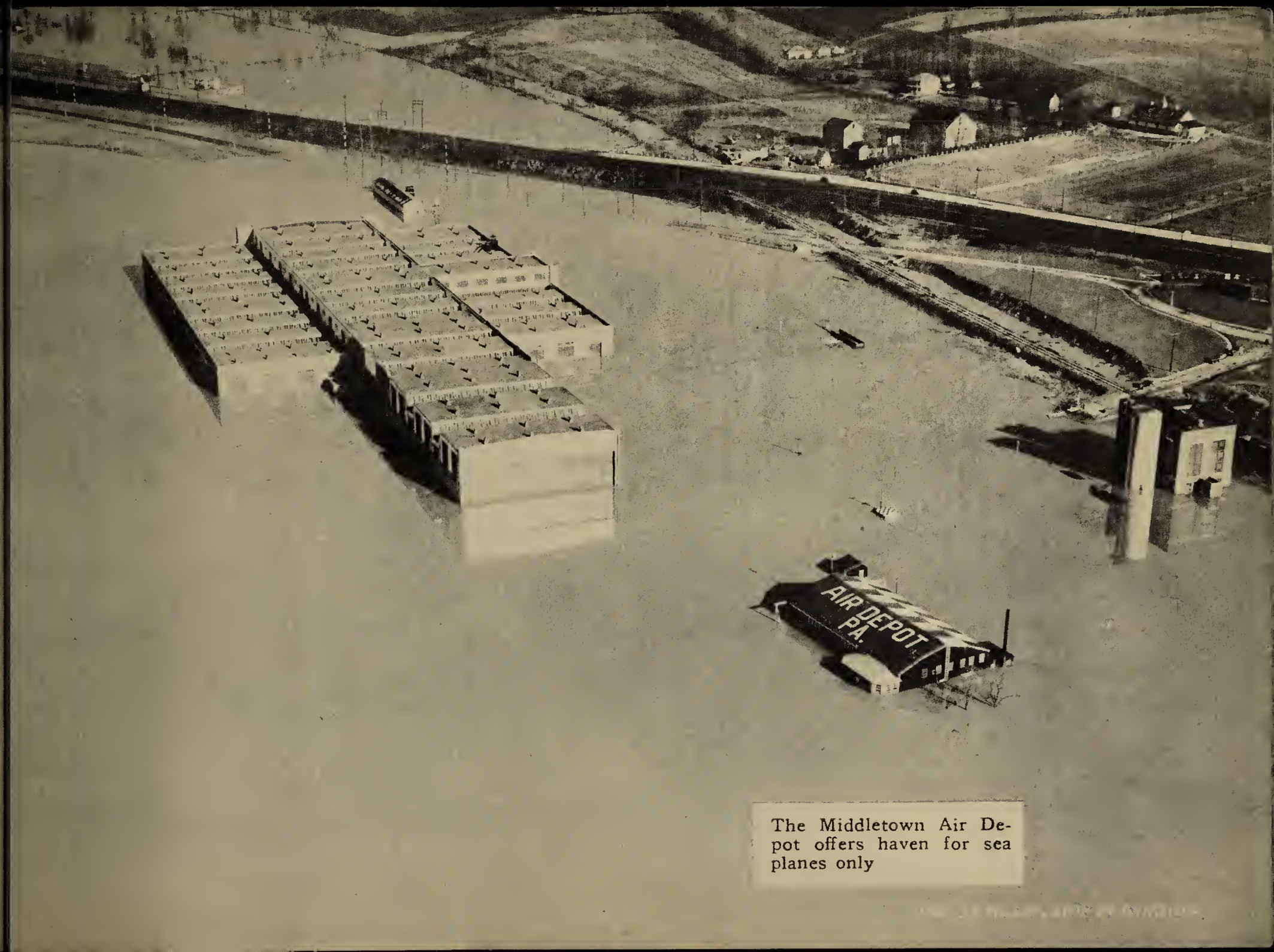
WIDE WORLD WIRED PHOTO





Sanctuary: flood refugees sleep in pews and on the floor of a Pittsburgh church





The Middletown Air De-  
pot offers haven for sea  
planes only






Swirling waters climb relentlessly  
in a Johnstown residential section





A Pittsburgh department store valiantly withstands the liquid onslaught



An aerial photograph showing a large area of land inundated with water. A dark, winding line, likely a railroad, runs diagonally from the upper right towards the lower right. The flooded area contains several small, dark structures and patches of trees. The water appears to have advanced inland from a river channel on the right side of the image.

The river marches inland  
above Harrisburg

MAJ. J. V. DALLIN, 28<sup>TH</sup> DIV. AVIATION





The flood threatens a rail-  
road at Williamsport





Seventh and Penn in downtown  
Pittsburgh: Boatsmen venture on  
receding waters





Hip boots and canoes  
come in handy in Liberty  
Street, Pittsburgh





Steelton's main street becomes  
a desolate canal.





It's—pitch in and clean up in Johnstown. A street scene as the flood receded.

FROM WIDE WORLD PHOTO





Grim satire: happy vacation homes demolished by high water.





Terror is etched on the faces of flood refugees taken from their home in a boat





Girl and Boy Scouts help at  
Pittsburgh Red Cross Head-  
quarters.

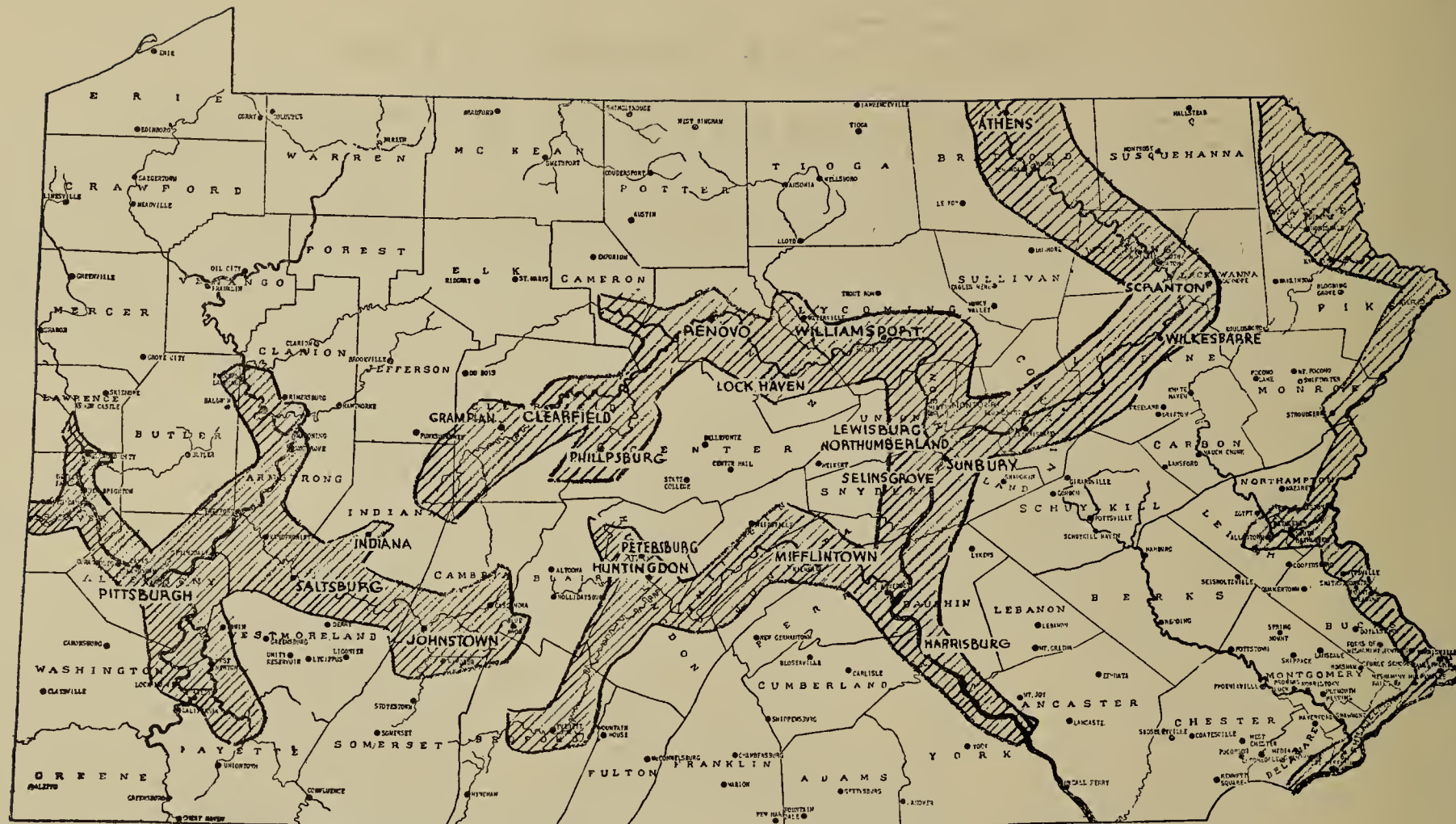
INTERNATIONAL NEWS PHOTOS, INC.





**Train service temporarily discontinued: the reason is obvious!**





Flood waters covered one-fifteenth of the state's area—3,008 sq. miles.



# Personal Experiences in the 1936 PENNSYLVANIA FLOOD

¶ This page is reserved for your own experiences or for those of your family  
¶ or friends . . . Keep this book as your permanent record of a great disaster. ¶

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# • FLOODS AND HIGH WATER-1936 •



© UNIVERSAL NEWS REEL

Pennsylvania's Greatest Flood Disaster in Pictures

25¢